IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a data processing system having a user terminal which generates a service request to define desired data processing services coupled to a data base management system which provides said desired data processing services by execution of an ordered sequence of native command language script via a ~~publically~~ publicly accessible digital data communication network, the improvement comprising:

a. a document containing a plurality of elements formatted in XML (extensible markup language) transferred from said user terminal to said data base management system which contains said service request; and

b. an XML mapping tree via which the transformation of each of said plurality of elements is defined which permits conversion of said document to said ordered sequence of native command language script.

2. (Original) The improvement according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of elements further comprises an attribute which is recorded within said XML mapping tree.

3. (Original) The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said document is defined by a Document Type Definition (DTD).

4. (Original) The improvement according to claim 3 further comprising a storage space in which said XML mapping tree is stored for future use.

5. (Original) The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said XML mapping tree is displayed on said user terminal in a window.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a. an XML document which describes a service request defining a database management process;

b. a ~~publically~~ publicly accessible digital data communication network;

c. a data base management system having an input format different from XML which involves a native script which is executed by said data base management system to honor said service request responsively coupled to said ~~publically~~ publicly accessible digital data communication network which receives said XML document via said ~~publically~~ publicly accessible digital data communication network; and

d. an XML mapping tree responsively coupled to said data base management system which parses said XML document into

said input format of said data base management system which involves said native script which is executed by said data base management system to honor said service request.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said XML mapping tree is stored for future use.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said ~~publically~~ publicly accessible digital data communication system further comprises the Internet.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said XML mapping tree is hierarchical.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of using an XML document to define a service request to a data base management system having an incompatible input protocol including an ordered sequence of command language statements for execution by said data base management system to honor said service request comprising:

a. transferring said XML document defining said service request to said data base management system via a ~~publically~~ publicly accessible digital data communication network;

b. parsing said XML document into an XML mapping tree; and

c. presenting said parsed XML document as said ordered sequence of command language statements to said data base management system for processing by execution.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 further comprising the set of saving said XML mapping tree for future use.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said XML document is defined by a DTD.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one element has an attribute.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14 wherein said ~~publically~~ publicly accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a. transmitting means for transmitting an XML document defining a service request;

b. providing means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for providing data base management functions to honor said service request; and

c. composing means responsively coupled to said providing means for composing said XML document from an XML mapping tree and data in said data base management system.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said composing means further comprises storing means for storing said parsed XML document for future use.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said transmitting means further comprises the Internet.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 19 further comprising displaying means for displaying said XML document.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for controlling a legacy ~~data base~~ database management system using an XML message comprising:

a. a user terminal which generates a ~~data base~~ database management system service request as said XML message;

b. said legacy ~~data base~~ database management system responsively coupled to said user terminal via a publicly accessible digital data communication network which honors said service request by executing an ordered sequence of command language script; and

c. a conversion facility responsively coupled to said legacy ~~data base~~ database management system which parses said XML message to produce said ordered sequence of command language script.

22. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 21 wherein said XML message further comprises a plurality of elements.

23. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said conversion facility further comprises an element to source mapping tree.

24. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 23 further comprising a repository wherein said element to source mapping tree is stored for future use.

25. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.